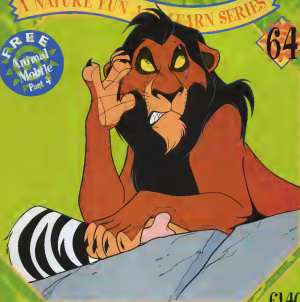


Disney's THE
LION KING

A NATURE FUN & LEARN SERIES

FREE
Animal
Mobile
Part 4

64



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Grapevine

Hi there!

Simba's World this week is about Africa's small cats. One big difference between small cats and big cats is the way they sit. Small cats tuck their forepaws beneath them; big cats stretch them out in front. Also, you can discuss things with a small cat, whereas a big cat is always right, whatever she says.

Kim



Leah Markey, age 11

What's yellow and sweet and on legs from tree to tree?

honeydew

Emma Lewis, age 12



MAGAZINE MUNCHERS

Last week I met a silverfish who said he devoured every issue of The Lion King and couldn't wait for the next one to come out. I thought he was just an avid reader, but then I found out that he actually does eat the magazine. Silverfish produce a special substance which enables them to digest paper. This little critter obviously has great taste and knows a superior snack when he reads one.

PRESS CARD

Food & Drink

Illustrator

MITES RIDE FOR FREE

A group of mites has been charged with fare dodging. The mites were caught clinging to a bumble bee. In their defence, they said that they were not harming the bee, just using it as a way of getting about. That's all very well, but we couldn't all do it, could we, unless Elephant was going our way, of course!

PRESS CARD

Comics

Domestic



How do you know when it's raining cats and dogs?

papered

Sarah Brown, age 12



Alex Keeble, age 9

RUDE AWAKENING

This black bear awoke rather suddenly from his winter sleep yesterday when he was stung on the foot by ants. He said, "I was looking for somewhere to sleep last autumn and I saw this pile of pine needles and thought, 'That'll be comfy'. How was I to know it was a red ants' nest?" The ants went deep into the ground when the colder weather came, but are now returning to the surface. So look out!

PRESS CARD

Overseas

Ants



W
A
T
C
H

There are 13 little lizards, just like this one, hidden in this magazine. Can you find them all?

OUT FOR

CONTENTS 64



SIMBA'S WORLD
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Part 3

BEARNA
MATILDA



Tadpole
Aquarium

Ant-mimic Spider



South-west
North America



Kings of the Past

THE LION KING
COLOUR ET IN

Classroom
Capers

PUZZLES



RAFIKI REMEMBERS

Why Wild Dog Hunts

FREE IN PART 65

A great card to send to a good friend when it's their birthday!



Write to: The Lion King
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SIMBA'S WORLD

ALL WILD CATS, BOTH BIG AND SMALL, BELONG TO THE FELID FAMILY. THEY HAVE EXCELLENT EYESIGHT AND HEARING, SHARP CLAWS WHICH THEY CAN DRAW IN, AND SHARP TEETH. ALL THESE HELP THEM TO BE SUCCESSFUL HUNTERS.

Small Cats

There are certain differences between the big cats, like lions, cheetahs and leopards, and the small ones, such as caracals and servals. First of all, small cats have a bone at the base of their tongue which prevents them from roaring. They also have a hair patch along the front of their nose – in big cats, this area is covered with fur. When they eat, they

crouch, whereas big cats lie down. When hunting, small cats are especially good at picking up high-frequency sounds

SERVALS

Servals are smaller than cheetahs but they look like them, with their long legs, small head, and slim build. Like cheetahs, the

have dark spots but these merge into dark streaks along their shoulders. Their ringed tail is shorter than the cheetah's and their ears are large and oval shaped.

Servals prefer moist areas where there is plenty of water and grassy cover. They live alone and rest in lairs during the day. They mainly hunt at night.



THE INSIDE STORY

Many wild cats live in forests where they scramble nimbly through the trees. If they do fall, they usually land on their feet. This is because information about the position of the cat's body as it falls is sent very quickly from the inner ear to the brain. The brain then directs the neck muscles to get the head into an upright position and the rest of the body speedily gets in line.

When a small cat, like a serval, rests, it bends its forepaws and tucks them under its body and wraps its tail round itself. Large cats, like cheetahs, stretch out their paws in front and hold their tail out behind their body.

ON THE PROWL

Servals stalk through savannahs and small woodlands, turning their ears in all directions to pick up sounds of prey moving about. They mainly eat birds and small animals which they fell with a swipe of their paws. Like pet cats, they often play with their prey before eating it.

◀ **LOOK OUT BELOW!**
This serval is pouncing on prey in long grass.

▶ **STRIPES AND SPOTS**
Servals grow to 90cm and weigh about 15kg.



CARACALS

Caracals are stockier than servals and have shorter legs and bigger paws. Their coats are reddish brown to yellowish grey with white undersides, and their ears have long, black tufts of hair at the tip.

Caracals live in open country in most parts of Africa. They are skilled at climbing and sometimes rest in trees during the day. Although they are only about 75cm long, they can kill animals much bigger than themselves. A caracal stalks large prey carefully and then makes a sudden leap, grabbing the animal with its front claws and biting it at the throat.

◀ Caracals can leap into the air and bring down a flying bird with a swipe of their large paws.



SIMBA SAYS

Those caracals sure are picky eaters. If they kill a big, fatty animal, they first bite off chunks of hair so that they don't swallow too many hils once they start eating. And, for some strange reason, they won't touch the soft innards. Still, that leaves more for the rest of us meat-eaters.

▼ ► MOTHER AND CUBS

Female caracals rear 1-5 kittens on their own. When the young are a few months old, they go with their mother on her hunting trips. The mother defends her young fiercely and will even attack humans if they come too near.



Wow! Caracals are so quick and agile that the Persians and Indians used to train them to catch hares and game birds for them.



DESERT CATS

The sandy-coloured sand cat survives the harsh conditions of the Sahara desert by keeping out of the heat, in a burrow or rock crevice, during the day. It prowls about at dusk and at night, digging out small mammals and lizards from their hiding places.

▼ SECRETIVE FOREST CAT

The African golden cat is almost twice the size of the sand cat and lives in the forests of central Africa. It has a spotted or speckled coat and a ringed tail.

▼ KEEPING OUT OF SIGHT

The sand cat is about 50cm long, with large eyes and fur covering the soles of its feet. Having ears that barely stick up above the top of its flat head helps it to stalk through rocky deserts without being spotted.



Simba, Timon and Pumbaa were still looking for a home which they could really call their own.

"OK!" muttered Timon, dusting himself down after being flattened by Simba, who – against his better judgement – had tried flying like a bird and had failed miserably.

"So mud holes, nests in trees and holes in the ground are O-U-T! So, where can we live?" asked the meerkat.

"You can live with me in my mother's herd," said a braying voice behind him. It was a young zebra who had been watching Simba and Timon's antics with much amusement. "I think it would be a great laugh to live with you – you're all so funny!"

The zebra, whose name was Stripey, led the friends to where a herd of zebra were drinking from a waterhole. Stripey's mother was more than happy to welcome the newcomers into her home, as there was plenty of room!

"Our home stretches from bush-land to river," she said. "And we have lots

of friends – giraffes and antelopes, flamingos and gazelles. I think you'll enjoy living with us."

And she was right. It wasn't long before Simba, Pumbaa

and Timon were used to waking at dawn to follow the zebra as they travelled through their territory.

They learnt how the zebra fed on grass and leaves, although Pumbaa still insisted that bugs and worms were much more tasty! And little Stripey

introduced them to the giraffes, who fed on leaves, buds and fruits from the tall acacia trees.

"This is great!" chuckled Simba, as he and Timon were lifted high into the air on top of the giraffes' heads. "I can see everything from up here!"

"Yeah," agreed Timon, sliding down the giraffe's neck to land on Stripey's back. "Stripey and his herd are great to live with!"

"For once, Timon – whereee! – you have the right idea," said Simba, following his friend to ground level. "Maybe it really is the right time to settle down and make a home for ourselves with the zebra herd. After all, what could possibly go wrong?"

Three pairs of bright yellow eyes peering out from the bushes could have answered Simba's question. A trio of cheetahs, their spotted coats camouflaging them, were on the prowl. They were hungry, and had planned to have a zebra for their meal. As usual, they'd picked out

their prey, the weakest and most defenceless zebra they could find. And they had chosen – Stripey!

Crawling through the thick brush and undergrowth, as silent as shadows, the cheetahs drew closer and closer to their prey.

At the edge of the zebra herd, Stripey's mum sniffed the air.

"There's someone here," she whispered urgently to her family. "It can smell their scent. And it's not the scent of a friend!" She noticed that the giraffes were craning their necks and looking around, nervously. They could smell danger, too.

Suddenly, Simba, who had again climbed on to a giraffe's head to get a better view, gave a worried shout.

"Hey, there's something moving about in the bushes over there!"

Realizing that they had been discovered, the cheetahs attacked!

"Get him!" shouted Lightfoot, the cheetah's leader, dashing towards Stripey at incredible speed.

Home Sweet Home! Part 3



"Stripey! Run!" shouted his mother, who was busy trying to lead the herd to safety. But in the panic, Stripey was quickly left behind.

"Wait for me!" he cried, trying to keep up. But it was no use. His little legs were not strong enough. He turned to see the cheetahs racing towards him!

"Ha! We've got him!" growled Lightfoot, preparing to leap on to Stripey's back.

Simba, who had remained on top of the giraffe's head, knew he had to do something – and fast!

"Those cheetahs want Stripey for their dinner!" he shouted to Pumbaa and Timon. "We have to save him!"

"Sheesh!" muttered Timon, scampering up the neck of another giraffe. "And all I wanted was a quiet life! Oh, well, here we go again!" Reaching the giraffe's head, he turned and slid all the way

back down again, very fast. Timon shot from the giraffe's back and landed

with a heavy thump! bang on target – on top of Lightfoot's head! The cheetah was knocked senseless!

Looking at the knocked-out cheetah, the brave little meerkat growled, "Don't mess with the best, matey!"

The other two cheetahs split up, planning to attack Stripey from both sides at once!

"Wellll!" cried Stripey, as his legs buckled under him and he went crashing into the dust.

"You're mine!" roared Fast-Track, the second cheetah, rushing up to grab Stripey by the throat.

"Hey!" growled a deep voice behind him. "Just leave that kid alone! He's my pal!"

Then, before Fast-Track knew what was happening, Pumbaa – who could move pretty fast himself if he wanted to – ran up and head-butted the cheetah hard on the bottom!

"Waaaaah!" cried Fast-Track, speeding up even more. Unable to stop, he went crashing into a tree! Which only left Speedy, the last cheetah. When he saw Pumbaa bring down Fast-Track, he decided on a warthog lunch, instead of zebra! "You're mine!" snarled the

cheetah, skidding in a half-circle and racing after Pumbaa. But, as fast as Pumbaa was, Speedy would always be faster. In a few swift strides he caught up with the warthog – and then came to a sudden stop! Simba had caught him by the tail and was holding on tight, refusing to let go!

"Grrr! Get off me!" snarled Speedy as he spun round, faster and faster, trying to shake Simba off.

"N-N-N-Never!" gasped Simba, holding on for dear life. All this spinning was making him dizzy – but not as dizzy as Speedy, who suddenly collapsed on the ground, quite unable to stand up straight for a second longer.

"Hooray! You saved me!" cheered Stripey, running up to his friends. "Now let's find my mum – she'll be ever so worried!"

Once the scattered herd had been gathered and Stripey had found his mother, Timon and Pumbaa decided that perhaps they wouldn't settle down with the herd after all.

"I'd never be able to sleep! I'd be worrying all night about sneaky cheetah attacks," Timon said to Simba. "In fact, I've gone right off this setting up home lark. When I think of all we've been through, I reckon it'd be safer – and more fun – just to keep on travelling!"

Simba was very happy to hear Timon say this, and gave a big grin.

"Well, there really is no place like home," the lion said, as the friends danced off into the sunset, "because the whole of this huge, wonderful land is our home!"

NEXT WEEK BLOODHEAD



ZAZU'S

MAKE & DO

Tadpole Aquarium

Many households buy soft drinks or mineral water in large plastic bottles. Here's one way to recycle one of the very big ones!

YOU WILL NEED

flat-sided, 3- or 5-litre plastic bottle;
a craft knife/sharp scissors
from a pet shop, or
aquarium shop; gravel,
water plants (such as
Canadian pondweed and
arrowweed)
large rocks and pebbles
a sieve

- 3** Place the gravel in the tank, sloping it towards one side. Put in the pebbles on the highest part of the gravel – these are for the young frogs to sit on.



- 1** Ask an adult to help you cut one side from the plastic bottle, as shown. Tightly screw on the lid.



- 2** Place the gravel in a sieve and wash it well under running water. Scrub the pebbles and rocks. This washing helps prevent algae forming in the tank.

- 4** Push the roots of the water plants firmly down into the gravel. The plants will provide food for the young tadpoles. They also produce life-giving oxygen.



- 5** Lay a sheet of newspaper over the plants and gravel to stop them shifting when you pour in water. Gently fill the tank with clean water up to about two-thirds full. The big pebbles should be sticking out of the water. Remove the newspaper.

- 6** Before adding any tadpoles, leave the tank for about a week in a shady place, indoors or outdoors. If you leave it in strong sunlight, the tank will quickly get overgrown with green, slimy algae.



Tadpole Watching Explained

Make and fill your tank a week before you get your frogspawn. The word spawn means 'lots of eggs laid in water'. March and April are the best months to find frogspawn. Ask an adult to help you look for some in ditches or ponds. It looks like bubbly jelly with little black dots in it. Frogspawn looks similar, but it's laid in ribbon-like strands. Catch just a little spawn in a jar. Leave the rest undisturbed in the pond, because frogs and toads are becoming increasingly rare as their habitats disappear. In spring, you can sometimes obtain spawn from garden centres or pet shops – but make sure that the spawn is from an indigenous (local) species!

- 1 On the left is frogspawn; on the right is toadspawn. The eggs are protected by a slippery coat of jelly.



- 2 One day after hatching, the tadpole uses suckers to attach itself to a rock or plant. It feeds on the egg yolk inside its body.
- 3 After three weeks, the tadpole can now swim about and is able to feed on algae and water plants. It filters oxygen through its gills.
- 4 After two months, the tadpole's legs start to grow. The hind legs develop first. As its lungs develop, the feathery external gills are absorbed back into the body. It is now able to eat small water animals, but you can feed it on tiny bits of cheese, meat or other protein.
- 5 After three months the small frog can leave the water. It now needs rocks to sit on while it uses its lungs to breathe. Its tail is mostly absorbed into the body, leaving a visible stump.
- 6 As the frog becomes an adult, the tail stump shrinks away completely. You should now release the young frogs back at the pond where you found the spawn.



SPIDER THAT FOOLS ANTS

Most spiders won't risk getting too close to ants because of their fierce bites. But one jumping spider manages to walk right up and eat them.

A male jumping spider, with black bands across its grey body, is making its way across a log when it spots a black and grey banded ant. Instead of getting out of its way, as most spiders would do, this spider instantly lifts its front pair of legs off the ground and walks straight towards the ant.

Although it is bigger than the ant, it has the same pattern and is walking on six legs, not eight. The ant

mistakes the spider for one of its family, and allows it to come close. Then the spider makes waving movements with its front legs, as if it is an ant about to stroke its companion with its antennae, to calm it. Suddenly – wham! The spider grabs the ant, which is not quick enough to bite its attacker, and injects it with venom which swiftly paralyzes it. The spider has won itself a meal by being a master of disguise.

The spider on the right has raised its front pair of legs so that it is only walking on six legs, just like the ant on the left. This is part of its brilliant strategy to fool the ant into thinking it is just another member of its family.





SOUTH-WEST NORTH AMERICA

IN THE SOUTH-WEST OF THE CONTINENT ARE TWO PARALLEL MOUNTAIN RANGES, A VAST FERTILE VALLEY AND FORESTS WHICH BOAST THE LARGEST TREES IN THE WORLD.

Here there are groves of trees so tall that they probably make the residents feel very small indeed. Even the largest animals here, the Roosevelt elk, are dwarfed by the mighty redwood trees, which can be 111m tall. Every year, each tree produces thousands of 2cm-long cones which soon cover the forest floor. Squirrels and chipmunks gnaw into the unopened cones and devour the seeds. They also bury stores of these seeds to eat when winter comes, but frequently forget where they are.



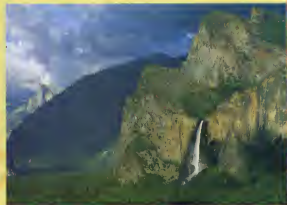
"Those noisy birds must be Stellar's jays."

"I wish Stellar would ask them to be quiet. I'm trying to sleep!"

These forests are also home to skunks, pine martens, wolverines and weasels. High up in the trees live noisy crows, ravens and the bright blue Stellar's jays.

Three hundred kilometres away from the coastal mountains where the redwoods grow, across a broad, fertile valley famous for its poppies, stand the mountains of the Sierra Nevada. On their western slopes grow some of the largest and oldest of all living things – the giant sequoias. Their trunks average 7.6m in diameter and the largest weighs about 6167 tonnes.





Douglas squirrels bury hundreds of conifer seeds in secret places to eat when winter comes.



Martens are agile climbers and powerful jumpers. They can leap across 6m gaps.



Nutcrackers have a pouch beneath their tongues in which they can carry 60 conifer seeds.



Some of these giant trees have managed to survive storms, fire and disease for over 4000 years. One of their secrets is the tannin in their bark and heartwood, which gives them their red colour and makes them resistant to attack by insects and fungi.

In the Sierra Nevada is the Yosemite valley with its dense woodlands, sheer rock faces and crashing waterfalls. Its dramatic rock formations were made by movements in the Earth's crust and by glaciers which gouged out the deep valleys long ago. The valley also has some unusual granite spheres. These were formed deep below the Earth, but are now exposed. Rock has flaked off the lumps and left them looking like huge footballs. This gentle process is called exfoliation.

▶ **FALLING DOWN**
Yosemite valley has some of the highest unbroken waterfalls in the world.

▶ **FLOWER POWER**
California's Central Valley has been described as a 'vast golden flower bed'.



▶ **A WHITE PEAKS**
The Sierra Nevada or 'snowy range' is 300km from the Pacific and runs parallel to that ocean for 844km.



▶ **FOREST THIEF**
Stellar's jays are forest predators. They steal the eggs and newly hatched young of other species of birds.

▶ **A THE BIG TREES**
Giant sequoias can be 85m tall. Their roots are shallow, but anchor the tree by spreading widely.



In a bid to save the California condor from extinction, the last few were rounded up for breeding in captivity.



"If one river could do all this, just think what we could achieve."

"Yaaaawww! OK Timon, we'll start tomorrow."



Rivers never rest and the Colorado has carried millions of tonnes of silt in its time. This red silt, which consists of particles of rock and soil washed off the land, scours the rocks and carves valleys. It's taken 10 million years for the Colorado to carve out the Grand Canyon, and what an achievement it is. It's 1.5km deep, 450km long and, at its widest, 30km from rim to rim.

Such a huge natural phenomenon is bound to create special conditions for wildlife. At the Canyon's rim there are forests of ponderosa and piñon trees.

► ROCK HISTORY
The sides of the Grand Canyon reveal layers of sedimentary rock that were laid down millions of years ago.



On the lower, drier slopes, only stunted trees and cacti can survive. Porcupines, cacomistles and rock squirrels live here, troubled from time to time by grey foxes, cougars and lynxes. The Canyon floor is a real desert with high daytime temperatures. Mesquite and other plants survive near the water's edge and the rocky floor is home to heat-loving animals such as rattlesnakes, scorpions and chuckwallas.



Red-tailed hawks soar over the forests of the Canyon's rim, searching for rodents and lizards.



The 50cm-long chuckwalla lizards are unusual among reptiles, because they eat mainly plants.

► CANYON ANTIQUARIAN
The Grand Canyon in Arizona, USA, is the largest natural gorge in the world. In places it is over 1.5km deep.

Cacomistles live among rock crevices and come out at night to hunt for rodents and lizards.

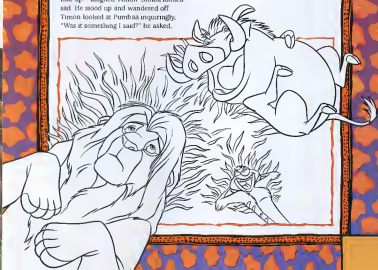


THE LION KING COLOUR IT IN

Kings of the Past



he three friends looked up at the sky. "Have you ever wondered what those sparkly dots are?" asked Pumbaa. "Well, somebody once told me that the great kings of the past are up there watching over us," said Simba. "You mean a bunch of royal dead guys are watching us? What snook made that up?" laughed Timon. Simba looked sad. He stood up and wandered off. Timon looked at Pumbaa inquiringly. "Was it something I said?" he asked.



PUZZLES

CLASSROOM CAPERS

Rafiki is trying to teach his pupils, but the youngsters aren't concentrating, they're laughing at some jokes. Can you match up the jokes and the answers to work out what the baboons find so funny?

MAKING WORDS

Rafiki wants his class to put the pictures on the tree trunk into pairs to make five new words.

For example,  and ladybird, what are the five words?

1 Did your mother help you with your homework?
A Because he puts blazes by all my wheel

2 Why do you think Rafiki likes you?
C He couldn't control his pupil

3 Why should Rafiki be wearing dark glasses?
B When he's beside himself

4 When is Rafiki two teachers?
D Because his pupils are so bright

4 Did you hear about the teacher who was cross-eyed?
E No, she did it all by herself

HIDDEN BUGS

There are seven bugs hiding on this page. See if you can find them?

STICK IT OUT

Rafiki has taken nine sticks and laid them out in three triangles. Can you make five triangles by moving just three sticks?

PIECE THE PIECES

One baboon was laughing so much he smashed his writing slate! See if you can put the pieces back together again.

MORE PUZZLES



ON THE BOARD

Can you find these words hidden in the wordsearch?

SATCHEL
BLACKBOARD
CHALK
LESSON
SCHOOL

TEACHER
PUPIL
PLAYGROUND
UNIFORM
PEN

IN CLASS

Write down the first letter of each of the objects round the page. Re-arrange the letters and you will find the young baboons' favourite subject.

LUNCHTIME

At lunchtime, the young baboons are always hungry! This pile of fruit is to be divided equally between four baboons. If they are each allowed to eat four different kinds of fruit, what is left over?



RAFIKI REMEMBERS

WHY WILD DOG HUNTS

"SOMETHING HAPPENED TO WILD DOG THAT TURNED HIM INTO A PACK ANIMAL - LET ME TELL YOU ABOUT IT."

Wild Dog had a kind wife and many children and they lived happily together. One day, however, his mate fell very ill and Wild Dog was grief-stricken.

"Come with me," said his cousin, Jackal. "I will take you to the doctor."

So the two of them went to see Hare, the doctor. Hare listened gravely to them, then said, "You go back now and look after the patient. I will mix you a medicine for her and someone will bring it to you."

Hare spent half the morning finding the right ingredients

and making the medicine. Then he put it in a gourd and gave it to Impala.

"You are swift-footed," he said. "Run to Wild Dog's den with this medicine - his wife is very ill. But whatever you do, don't look back."

Impala ran off, but halfway there she thought she could smell the scent of a leopard. She looked back to check - and before she knew it, had tripped. The medicine lay spilt on the ground.

Hare was cross because he had to start all over again and there wasn't much time. He put the medicine in a gourd.



This time he asked Zebra to deliver it for him. "You are fast," said Hare. "Go quickly, for Wild Dog's wife is dangerously ill. But whatever you do, don't look back."

Zebra galloped as fast as he could, and had almost reached Wild Dog's den when he heard something. Looking down he saw a snake on the ground, and kicked out at it. The gourd smashed against a rock.

A moment later, a terrible howling came from Wild Dog's den. His wife had just died and he was pouring out

his grief. When he came out of his home and saw Zebra with the broken gourd, he called all his relatives. Then, together as a pack, they chased Zebra to catch and punish him for spilling the medicine.

Fortunately, Zebra escaped. But, since that time all wild dogs have hunted in packs. In particular they go after impala and zebra because it was they who spilt the medicine that might have saved the life of Wild Dog's wife.



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QUICK ANSWERS

QUICK ANSWERS

11, 21, 31, 41, 51, 61

Missing Words:

Missing words:

greatest, halfway, halfway

halfway, halfway

halfway, halfway

halfway, halfway

halfway, halfway

halfway, halfway

halfway, halfway

halfway, halfway

halfway, halfway

halfway, halfway

halfway, halfway

halfway, halfway

halfway, halfway

halfway, halfway

On the Board:



Make It Out



Face the Facts

ATTACHING THE HIPPOS AND RHINO

Cut out the hippos and rhino and sew along the fold lines. Glue the two sides of the animals together and pierce the holes, as marked, with a compass point. Pierce a straw through the centre with a compass point. Take a 24-in. length of knotted thread and, using a needle, thread it through the hole in one hippo, through the hollow centre of the straw, and through the other hippo, knotting the end.

Take a 16-in. length of knotted thread, thread it through the hole in the last hippo and then through the holes in the middle of the straw, holding the other hippos and knot it. Take a small length of knotted thread and thread it through the hole in the rhino and the hole in the hippos. For the long straw, with the giraffes with a 16-in. length of thread, your model is now complete! Hang it by a string, so it can turn in the breeze.

